

Application No. 09/734,973
Amendment "B" dated October 26, 2004
Reply to Office Action mailed September 22, 2004

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for delivering enhanced programming content to a receiver, the receiver being configured to display the enhanced programming content, the method comprising:

~~a step for creating obtaining~~ a schema document, the schema document comprising a trigger data structure, an announcement data structure, and a package data structure defining enhanced programming content; ~~a step for accessing the schema document, the schema document comprising and at least one instructional timeline data structure containing instructions~~ regarding timing for the delivery of enhanced programming content, ~~the timeline data structure specifying a time for delivering each of the trigger, announcement and package data structures to the receiver, the at least one instruction also including a loop attribute to prevent multiple delivery of the enhanced programming content to the receiver;~~

~~a step for analyzing the at least one instruction to retrieve a timeline data structure, the timeline data structure comprising events specifying particular times during a particular period of time for delivery of each one of the trigger data structure, the announcement data structure, and the package data structure to the receiver;~~

~~verifying the authenticity of the schema document by comparing the schema document against a stored standardized schema document; and~~

~~a step for upon verifying the authenticity of the schema document, delivering each one of the trigger data structure, the announcement data structure, and the package data structure to the receiver as specified by the timeline data structure.~~

2. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1, further comprising:
(a) a step for viewing television programming deliverable to the receiver; and
(b) in response to viewing the television programming, a step for creating the schema document associated with the television programming.

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3. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the step for accessing the schema document comprises the step of retrieving the schema document from a repository containing a plurality of schema documents.
4. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the step for creating the schema document comprises a step for creating the schema document with an authoring tool.
5. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the enhanced programming content comprises at least one of an announcement element, a trigger element, and a package element.
6. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the delivering step comprises delivering the enhanced programming content in an order selected from the group consisting of a sequential order and an asynchronous order.
7. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the delivering step comprises synchronizing the enhanced programming content with the television programming over a communication line.
8. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the delivering step comprises delivering the enhanced programming content with a communication protocol.
9. (Original) A method as recited in claim 8, wherein the communication protocol is selected from the group consisting of (i) a transport A protocol and (ii) a transport B protocol.
10. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the delivering step comprises delivering the enhanced programming content before a deliver-by time, defined in the schema document.

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11. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the delivering step comprises delivering the enhanced programming content by a start time defined in the schema document.
12. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the timeline data structure functions as a carousel data structure.
13. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 12, wherein the carousel data structure specifies that the trigger data structure, the announcement data structure, and the package data structure should be delivered as fast as possible.
14. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the delivery step comprises:
- a step for delivering an announcement signal comprising the announcement data structure to the receiver, the announcement signal identifying the availability of enhanced programming content to the receiver;
 - a step for delivering a package comprising the package data structure to the receiver, the package identifying the enhanced programming content;
 - a step for delivering a trigger signal comprising the trigger data structure to the receiver, the receiver notifying the viewer of the availability of enhanced programming content; and
 - in response to a selection by the viewer to receive the enhanced programming content, a step for displaying the enhanced programming content to the viewer.
15. (Original) A method as recited in claim 14, wherein the package comprises at least one file containing the enhanced programming content.
16. (Original) A method as recited in claim 14, wherein the package comprises at least one link to the enhanced programming content.

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17. (Original) A method as recited in claim 14, wherein the trigger comprises at least one link to the enhanced programming content identified in the package.

18. (Original) A method as recited in claim 14, wherein the at least one user action comprises the step of accepting a notification displayed to the viewer of the availability of enhanced programming content.

19-29. (Cancelled).

30. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the document comprises an XML document.

31-35. (Cancelled)

36. (Currently Amended) A ~~system-method~~ as recited in claim 32, wherein the communication line comprises a plurality of different channels.

37. (Currently Amended) A ~~system-method~~ as recited in claim 36, wherein the communication line comprises a first channel configured to transport the television programming to the receiver and a second channel configured to transport the enhanced programming to the receiver, the first channel and the second channel being different channels.

38. (Previously Presented) A computer program product for implementing a method for providing enhanced programming content defined within a schema document to a viewer of a receiver module, comprising:

a computer readable medium carrying computer-executable instructions for implementing the method recited in claim 1.

39. (Cancelled)

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40. (New) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the schema document further includes a tag that can be used to validate the authenticity of the schema document.